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Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of 47 members of the Human Rights Council

Note verbale dated 22 March 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat

The Permanent Mission of Hungary presents it compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to communicate the following:

The Government of the Republic of Hungary has decided to present its candidature for membership in the Human Rights Council of the United Nations for the period 2006-2008 at the elections in the General Assembly to be held in New York on 9 May 2006.

Hungary is deeply committed to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, strongly supporting all efforts aimed at the full and effective implementation and further development of international human rights law. Hungary has always been actively engaged in the work of the Commission on Human Rights, either as an observer or as a State member of that important United Nations forum. To further promote the noble cause of human rights and fundamental freedoms, Hungary seeks membership in the new Human Rights Council in the belief that it can effectively contribute to the work and activities of the Council.

Hungary is a State Party to the six basic United Nations human rights conventions, and also ratified both additional protocols to the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights. Hungary accepted the receiving of individual complaints with regard to the provisions of all those United Nations human rights instruments, where possible.

The Government of the Republic of Hungary has decided to make the following voluntary commitments in the field of the promotion and protection of human rights:

- Hungary will ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

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- Hungary pledges to uphold a standing invitation for mandate holders of human rights special procedures.
- Hungary also pledges to ensure a continuous voluntary contribution to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
- Furthermore Hungary commits itself to keep the deadlines with respect to the submission of periodic reports on the implementation of international human rights instruments and is going to pay special attention to the follow-up to the recommendations issued by the treaty bodies.